National Right to Work Committee

A COALITION OF EMPLOYEES AND EMPLOYERS NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

February 25, 2009

On behalf of the 2.2 million members of the National Right to Work Committee, I urge you to support the Secret Ballot Protection Act, introduced by Senator Jim DeMint, and Congressmen Tom Price, Buck McKeon and John Kline.

It goes without saying that in order to have a true democratic election, the voters should be free from coercion, intimidation, irregularity, or illegality. The only way to guarantee this is to make sure the voting is done in secret, safe from the prying eyes of union officials.

And the Secret Ballot Protection Act would do just that.

The fact is, Big Labor is gearing up to pass the misnamed Employee Free Choice Act, more accurately called the Card Check Forced Unionism Bill, which would do away with secret ballot elections for union organizing by establishing a simple "card check" procedure.

On a limited basis, union bosses are already able -under current law -- to acquire monopoly bargaining power over workers solely through the collection of so-called authorization cards.

And even today, union abuse of the card check process is rampant and systemic.

Under a "card check" organizing system, union militants know which workers have signed cards and which haven't.

Thus, independent-minded workers are lied to, intimidated -- and worse -- into signing not just

themselves, but all their non-union fellow employees over to union boss control.

But even as stacked as current law is in favor of Big Labor's forced-unionism power, there is at least a process to force a secret ballot election.

But, the Card Check Bill would remove that safeguard, eliminating virtually all secret ballot elections and replacing them with "card check" schemes.

Bypassing secret ballot elections, union organizers are able to bully workers one-on-one -- through on-the-job harassment, intimidating "home visits," and other coercive techniques -- into signing "union authorization cards" that are counted as "votes" in favor of unionization. This abusive process has given rise to a wave of reported workers' rights violations.

And with the Card Check Forced Unionism Bill on the horizon, the Secret Ballot Protection Act is needed now more than ever.

You see, the clear purpose of the "card check" procedure is simply to give union officials a new tool to foist unwanted union "representation" on more American workers.

No American worker should be forced to pay fees to, or accept the representation of a union he or she didn't ask for and doesn't want.

But at the very least, workers must be guaranteed the minimal protection of a secret ballot election conducted by the NLRB when deciding whether or not to unionize.

In the interest of freedom, and of sound public policy, I strongly encourage you to support the Secret Ballot Protection Act at every opportunity.

Sincerely,

Mark Mix

President